The Mining History Association (MHA) is an organization comprised of individuals and organizations interested in the history of mining and metallurgy and the preservation of historic sites related to the minerals industry.

Our members include historians, people drawn from all quarters of the industry, archaeologists, preservationists, geologists and engineers, librarians, museum professionals, attorneys, government officials, environmentalists, and persons simply interested in mining history.

We welcome companies, libraries, and historical societies as members. Our goal is to link individuals either working or who have worked in the industry with those involved in research and preservation so as to enhance the larger study, interpretation, and impact of the mining past.

The MHA presents a series of awards to individuals and organizations for their achievement and distinction in the field of mining history. A partial list includes:

The Rodman Paul Award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to mining history.

The Clark C. Spence Award is presented biennially to the author of the most significant recently-published book on mining history.

The Mary Lee Spence Documentary Book Award, presented biennially, recognizes edited works of compilations of documents (letters, unpublished reminiscences, oral histories, or photographs).

The John Townley Award is given to the author of the best article in The Mining History Journal each year.

The Cherry Hunter Award is presented for significant contributions to the preservation of mining history through art.

The Besleme-Orrell Heritage Award recognizes outstanding achievements in preservation, interpretation, and accessibility of documents, images, architecture, landscapes, and museum displays/exhibits.

The Keith Long Award is presented for the best presentation at the annual conference.

The John Livermore Award recognizes individuals and companies that have gone beyond what was required to preserve, reclaim, conserve, or document mining heritage and the natural environment surrounding mining operations.

Research Grants
The Association also provides competitive grants to anyone who plans to conduct mining history research, including graduate students, academic scholars, public sector professionals in related disciplines, independent scholars, writers, and educators.

Information about and requirements for these awards and grants may be found the MHA’s website.

www.mininghistoryassociation.org
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Mining History Association
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CHECK US OUT ONLINE

Website: www.mininghistoryassociation.org
All the information you want about the MHA including its conferences, tours and field trips, publications, and how to join the Association online.

Facebook: Mining History Association Group
Find out what is going on in the Association, information about historic mining sites, happenings, and mining history chit-chat.

YouTube: Mining History Association
Watch our monthly MHA Nugget Zoom meetings live or recorded. We also have recorded presentations from the 2021 and 2023 conferences.

Zoom: MHA Nuggets
Fall and Spring monthly Zoom meetings are open to everyone. Presentations on mining history or mining-related topics are given by scholars, industry members, and general enthusiasts. The schedule is on our website.

Membership

Annual membership includes a quarterly newsletter, an annual peer-reviewed journal, and special pricing for our annual conferences.

MHA is active throughout the year. We hold an annual conference in historic mining areas every June—a conference built around tours, talks, and social activities for members, non-members, spouses, and local people who wish to attend.

We publish a professional annual, the Mining History Journal, with articles and book reviews. We also issue a quarterly newsletter, and in the Fall and Spring have presentations on Zoom.

Yearly Membership Dues

Individual (U.S.): $35; Student: $20;
Individual (International): $45.
Online registration or mailable form at www.mininghistoryassociation.org/member.htm

Some MHA Conference Locations:

2025 Gunnison, CO
2024 Park City, UT
2023 Socorro, NM
2022 Birmingham, AL
2021 Elko, NV (virtual)
2019 Marquette, MI
2018 Deadwood, SD
2017 Fairbanks, AK